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and populism profit by repression elsewhere. His treatment of these themes is well balanced, and clear. Less biased than his chief rivals in this field, he is occasionally less readable. Without adopting the scolding tone of the *Nation* — evidently an important source — he preserves even in his closing chapters its spirit of aloofness. This is especially apparent when he touches all too briefly upon labor conditions. He is more successful in the treatment of foreign relations, although the chapter on the war with Spain would profit by expansion. Yet he shows how this cuts athwart the recent development of American life just as the civil war did at an earlier period. And as in the earlier instance, after a brief interruption, he shows how the American people quickly resumed their normal rate of progress. It is this picture of orderly though complicated development that these volumes afford us with a brevity and directness that bespeak for them a wide circle of readers.

ISAAC JOSLIN COX

Der Kampf um deutsche Kultur in Amerika. Aufsätze und Vorträge zur deutsch-amerikanischen Bewegung. Von Dr. Julius Goebel, Professor der deutschen Sprache und Literatur an der Staatsuniversität von Illinois. (Leipzig: Verlag der Dürr'schen Buchhandlung, 1914. 147 p. 3 marks)

Mr. Goebel's little volume, comprising chiefly addresses on the Germans in America and the preservation of their ideals and *Kultur*, delivered between the years 1894 and 1914, gains a peculiar, and in a sense a pathetic, interest by the world-stirring events which have taken place since this volume appeared early in the fateful year, 1914. For, whether one sympathizes with the pro-German point of view or not, it must be admitted that the antagonisms aroused by the war of nations and by the friction in our own relations with Germany will check for a long time to come the movement for the development of interest in matters Germanistic which has been making much headway of late years.

Of this Mr. Goebel has been one of the foremost champions as he has been one of the few scholars who realize that the surface of the history of the Germans in this country has yet barely been scratched. The volume before us includes his essays on the use of the names "Dutchman" and "Dutch" as terms of opprobrium for Germans; on the part that America has played in German poetry; on the poetry of German-Americans; on Germans in the writing of American history; on the German-Americans in Lincoln's time and an address delivered at the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of New Bern. To the fascinating story of this German colony in North Carolina, Mr. Goebel has already made important contributions through publications of the German-American Historical Society of Illinois.

Naturally in these addresses, most of them relating to special occasions, Mr. Goebel makes no attempt to exhaust any subject; that relating to the position of the Germans in Lincoln's time is necessarily merely a hasty survey of what ought some day to comprise one of the most interesting chapters in our history, particularly if it touches even briefly upon the service of the German troops in the civil war. Though this volume is intended chiefly for circulation in Germany it is certain to do good in this country as well in directing attention anew not only to the need of sound historical writing in regard to the contributions of German-born Americans to the development of the country and notably the Middle West, but to the necessity of a clearer interpretation of the German-American ideals of today, in relation to our joint country and citizenship.

This has become so important by reason of the developments of the last ten months that that portion of Mr. Goebel's volume which presents his views on this subject far overshadows in importance the rest of it. Thus it was his opinion before the war (p. 3) that, "we German-Americans cannot and do not wish to play party politics as a separate part of the whole people of this Commonwealth, be it either in the field of religion or politics." He feels strongly the weaknesses of our American life; as a nation, he finds (p. 8), we have a leaning towards hypocrisy, we are wanting in the sense of honor, particularly in pecuniary matters, and we are also characterized by a "hasty superficiality," a "cowardly bowing down before public opinion and a measureless national vanity." "Whosoever who sees clearly," he asks, "can underestimate the dangers that are especially menacing in a free country in which such traits of character are permitted to batten and to continue to devour?"

For this and the chaotic conditions which constituted our political life (in January, 1914) and compelled thoughtful people to ask if this nation could continue to govern itself much longer (!), Mr. Goebel offers us a remedy — German *Kultur*. Not of course the *Kultur* of Belgium and the *Lusitania*, but that of 1913, the German humanity which "has its roots deep in the matrix of our [*the German*] people's nature"; the "moral foundation of the German entity, its sense of duty, its true inwardness, and its deep trustworthiness" — this is the leaven which is to save the native Americans from themselves. "Not until then when the American *Kultur* of the future educates anew real men [*ganze Manner*] will it be safe for us to listen again to the oracle of the popular will."

Next, Mr. Goebel quotes from Schiller thus: "The German is elected by the genius of the world [*Weltgeist*] to labor at the eternal upbuilding of humanity . . . to him who shapes the spirit must in the end

belong the domination." The German-Americans are to shape our American spirit. Thus, our author resents Zangwill's symbolism of the melting pot, because he says that while the German becomes an American politically when he takes the oath of allegiance, it is only politically; he declines to allow his German personality, character, or language to be obliterated "according to the formula of a factory-made national type." Any effort to compel the German to abandon his language, his customs, his national individuality will in the course of time result, he thinks, in terrible punishment for those who attempt it.

All of this is gravely serious reading in midsummer, 1915, particularly as in these addresses of Mr. Goebel there is not one line, nor even a word, to show that there is any American political or social institution, or custom, or mode of life that appeals to him as worth while. If he sets any store by any American ideals, he carefully conceals his feeling; first and last, his book is a plea for the propagation of German idealism and standards in our American life. His hope and ambition are that the "American people of the future will be filled with German ideals." This was certainly not the attitude of Carl Schurz and the men of '48, of whose record and history Mr. Goebel is so proud. And what would Mr. Goebel say if each group of foreign-born citizens should interpret its history as a mandate to fill the American people of the future with its ideals? Fortunately, the native Americans are likely to have something to say about this plan to force the superior German virtues down their throats. At any rate, it is perhaps well that the war has come to make Americans restudy the relationship of our foreign-born groups to our ideals and to our body politic.

OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD

The American year book. A record of events and progress, 1914. Edited by Francis G. Wickware, B.A., B.Sc., with coöperation of a supervisory board representing national learned societies. (New York and London: D. Appleton and Company, 1915. 862 p. \$3.00)

This fifth issue of the year book is better arranged and more inclusive in its scope than any previous issue. The purpose of the work is well stated in the preface: it "appeals first of all to students in all fields, who wish a record of progress, not only in their own, but in other departments of human endeavor. It is intended, also, as a handbook for busy men, editors, contributors, professional men, teachers, scientific workers, engineers, practical and business men, who wish to verify or confirm points that arise in their minds."

The material is arranged in thirty-three heads or chapters accompanied in many cases by bibliographies and tables of statistics necessary